

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 CCO-00 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 SSO-00

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S/PRS: MR. TRATTNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY

USMISSION GENEVA

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 094842 TOSEC 100074

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, SY, LE

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES GENERATED BY WIRE SERVICE

ACCOUNTS OF WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING APRIL 19

DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN PROVIDED WITH THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE

FOR USE IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES.

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2. QUOTE Q. DO RON NESSEN'S COMMENTS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

TODAY REPRESENT A CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY REGARDING OUTSIDE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LEBANON?

A. U.S. POLICY REGARDING OUTSIDE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LEBANON REMAINS AS HAS BEEN STATED MANY TIMES PUBLICLY. WE ARE OPPOSED TO OUTSIDE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LEBANON AND HAVE MADE CLEAR OUR CONCERN THAT IT COULD LEAD TO WIDER HOSTILITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS WAS NOT INTENDED TO INDICATE ANY CHANGE IN THIS POLICY.

Q. THEN YOU CONSIDER THE PRESENCE OF SYRIAN TROOPS IN LEBANON AS BEING PART OF THE CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE SYRIA HAS BEEN PLAYING IN LEBANON?

A. WE CONSIDER THAT SYRIAN POLITICAL EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION AMONG THE LEBANESE

PARTIES HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTIVE. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN OUR POLICY OF OPPOSITION TO OUTSIDE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LEBANON. END QUOTE. ROBINSON

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